Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

## ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 22, 2002 TO APRIL 26, 2002

| | Reference Period | Month/Previous Month (m/m) | Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y) | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consumer Price Index (1992=100) | March | | | The Canadian CPI rose 0.7% in March. The 12-month increase in the CPI of 1.8% was primarily due to higher prices for food, tobacco products, and electricity. The Alberta CPI increased 0.2% in March and is up 1.9% from March 2001. |
| Alberta | 121.0 | 0.2% | 1.9% | |
| Canada | 117.7 | 0.7% | 1.8% | |
| Canadian Composite Leading Index (1992=100) | March | | | The Composite Leading Index rose 1.3% in March, its largest gain in 15 years. The housing index continued to increase, rising 2.4% in March after a 4.1% increase in February. Seven of the ten components posted increases in March, the same as in January and February. The index is up 6.9% over March 2001. |
| | 173.0 | 1.3% | 6.9% | |
| Retail sales | February | | | Canadian retail sales were nearly flat in February, falling 0.1%. This marginal decrease comes after four consecutive monthly gains. Declines by furniture (-1.6%) and automotive (-0.6%) sectors were partly offset by gains reported by food (0.8%) and clothing (0.5%) stores. Alberta retail sales rose 0.1% in February, and are up 10.6% from February 2001. |
| Alberta | 3,086 | 0.1% | 10.6% | |
| Canada | 25,234 | -0.1% | 6.7% | |
| Average Weekly Earnings ($) | February | | | Average weekly earnings in Canada rose 0.3% in February to $674.50, virtually unchanged from January and up 2.1% from February 2001. For Alberta, average weekly earnings rose 0.4% to $697.92 in February, an increase of 3.0% over February 2001. |
| Alberta | 697.92 | 0.4% | 3.0% | |
| Canada | 674.50 | 0.3% | 2.1% | |